GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3227
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2005
PRIVATE COURIER COMPANIES
Gawali Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details and the contribution of the private courier companies and the effect thereof on the Post and Telegraph Service in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to constitute an authority in order to have control over the private courier companies;

(c) if so, the concept of `Sanchar Sevak` in the Department of posts and the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented;

(d) the manner in which the Telecom. Resolution Technology helps in betterment of Telecom Sector; and

(e) the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Private Couriers in India are working in an unregulated environment. Therefore, details of these courier companies are not available with the Department of Posts.

(b) The Indian Post Office (Amendment) Bill, 2005 is yet to be finalized. The Indian Post Office (Amendment) Bill, 2002 which lapsed in February, 2004 proposed registration of couriers to ensure a level playing field for all operators as also ensure quality of service and protection of customers rights.

(c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in collaboration with Department of Posts has launched a pilot scheme on 24-12-2002 under which the telephone facility has been provided to villages through Grameen Dak Sewak Delivery Agents (GDSDAs) of the Department of Posts (DOP). These agents are also called Grameen Sanchar Sewaks. While carrying a mobile fixed wireless terminal (FWT) with display unit in a carry bag they visit door to door to provide telephone facility to the rural population while on their beats in the villages as Grameen Dak Sewaks. The equipments have been supplied by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited. In the Pilot Scheme about 1800 Grameen Sanchar Sewaks were identified to cover about 8000 villages of the country using the existing `Wireless in Local Loop Network`. The scheme is applicable on the existing STD/ISD PCO franchisee basis. The scheme was implemented through out the country except in Andaman & Nicobar. Haryana and Punjab Telecom Circles. As on 31-01-2005 around 11,291 villages a re being covered by 2,668 GSSs through out the country.

(d) There is no such technology as Telecom Resolution Technology.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.